

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 17-27, as follows:

The invention provides for precision “auto-targeting” of the threat vehicle, as well as modulation of the laser beam onto the moving platform, which is actively illuminated by a broad-angle beacon beam. The broad-angle beam illuminates the general region where a target is assumed to exist. Since the modulation is in a low-power leg of the system, and not constrained to be in the high-power leg (such as in the broad-area illuminator, laser amplifier, etc.), the system is more flexible, in that other candidate optical amplifiers, lasers, and modulators can be employed, relative to the prior art. (In this connection, the ‘low-power’ leg can be the readout beam from the laser 44 along the ~~beam path 60~~ beam path 61.) Moreover, given the relative low-power of the readout laser, low-cost, high precision, compact conjugation devices (42) can be employed, such as MEM phase-shifting arrays, with minimal thermal loading.